

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1486

INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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FOR IO/BAKER FROM AMBASSADOR CARTER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, UN

SUBJ: SUBCOMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION, ETC.,
WORKING GROUP ON COMMUNICATIONS

REF: BAKER/CARTER OFFICIAL INFORMAL DATED JULY 20

1. VERY PLEASED RECEIVE YOUR LETTER AND ITS COMMENTS AND ATTACHMENTS. THEY ARE USEFUL.

2. AT ORGANIZING MEETING OF WG MONDAY, 26 JULY, I SPOKE OF MY PERSONAL DISAPPOINTMENT AT THE ACTION(OR INACTION) TAKEN BY THE HRC ON CASES FORWARDED BY THE SUBCOMMISSION. I STRESSED THAT WE BE EVEN MORE DILIGENT IN OUR EXAMINATIONS AND HAVING THE RECORD OF THE SUMMARY MEETINGS FROM THE MARCH HRC WORKING GROUP PROVED MOST WORTHWHILE IN SETTING TONE FOR OUR GROUP.

3. I AGREE THAT CASES LIKE EQUATORIAL GUINEA SHOULD NEVER HAVE GONE FORWARD. I VOTED AGAINST IT IN THE WG LAST YEAR AND IN THE FULL SUBCOMMISSION, AND WAS SURPRISED TO FIND THAT IT SAILED THROUGH WHEN SO MANY MORE DESERVING CASES GOT SIDETRACKED BECAUSE OF POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS AND SENSITIVITIES.

4. YOU WILL BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THAT THERE IS SUCH INTEREST
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IN PREPARING OURSELVES FROM THE SUBCOMMISSION STANDPOINT THAT

AN INFORMAL GROUP OF WESTERN MEMBERS IS GETTING TOGETHER ON THE DAY BEFORE THE OPENING OF THE FULL SESSION 11AUGUST) TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON HOW WE CAN IMPLEMENT 1503 PROCEDURE. THIS GROUP IS MEETING INFORMALLY NOT TO FORM A "WESTERN BLOC" BUT TO IMPROVE COOPERATION AND TO SEEK COOPERATION FROM OTHER REGIONS SO AS TO STRENGTHEN THIS VALUABLE DEVICE (1503).

5. MEMBERS WHO WILL BE MEETING WILL BE ANTONIO CASSESE (ITALY), ERIK NETTEL (AUSTRIA), M. QUESTIAUX (FRANCE), BENJAMIN WHITAKER (UK), AND MYSELF.ABRAMS

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